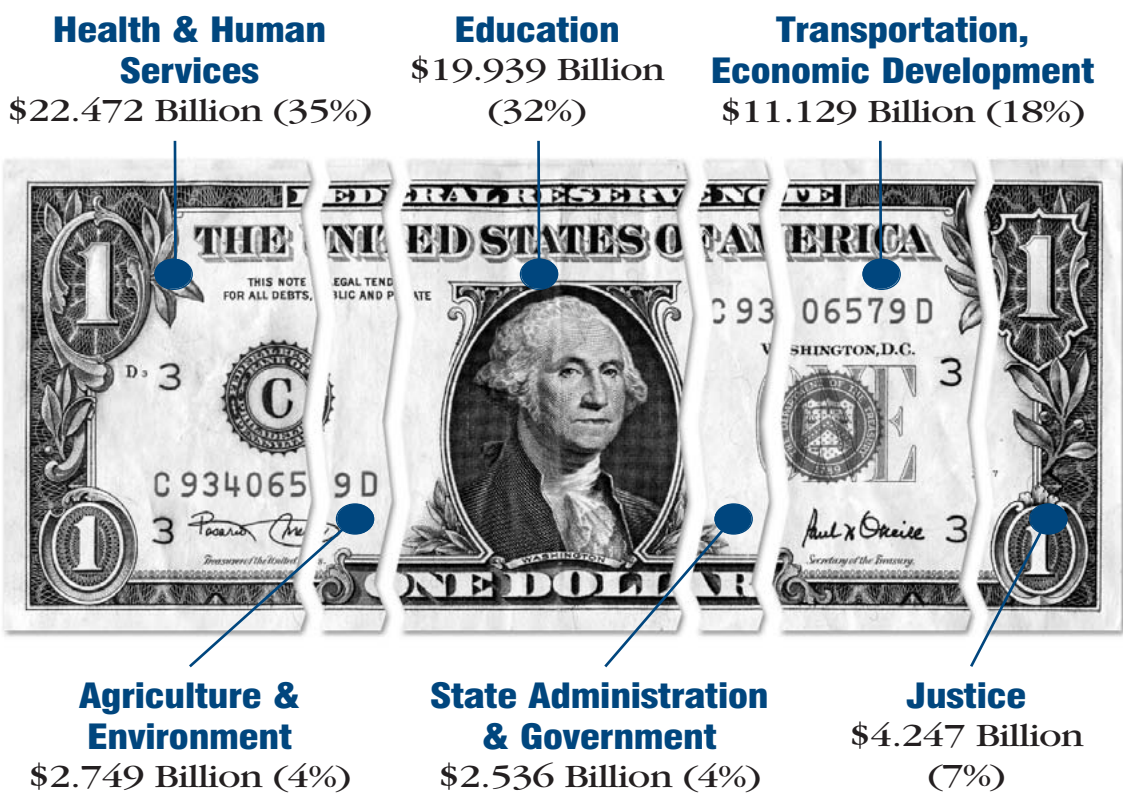




2005 Budget Breakdown



IMPORTANT CONTACT NUMBERS FOR GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

- 1-800-342-8060 Attorney Complaints
- 1-800-424-9393 Auto Safety
- 1-800-848-3792 Banking and Finance
- 1-800-368-5647 Boat Safety/Recalling U.S. Coast Guard
- 1-800-962-2873 Child/Adult Abuse
- 1-800-638-2772 Consumer Product Safety, U.S.
- 1-800-435-7352 Consumer Services Hotline, FL
- 1-800-388-2227 Counseling/Credit, U.S.
- 1-800-342-9271 Education/Career Development
- 1-800-342-3557 Emergency Management
- 1-800-688-9889 Federal Information
- 1-800-342-1676 Game, Fish Violation
- 1-800-342-0828 Health Care Costs
- 1-800-942-4242 Insurance (Hotline Nationwide)
- 1-800-829-1040 Internal Revenue Service
- 1-800-342-1827 Legislative Information
- 1-800-342-5367 Marine Patrol
- 1-800-333-7586 Medicare- Doctors (Part “B”)
- 1-800-282-3171 Poison Control
- 1-800-342-7940 Professional Regulations
- 1-800-772-1213 Social Security
- 1-800-342-1741 Workers Compensation

Your Comments Please

I believe communication is the heart and soul of successful service to my constituents

Any comments or questions you may have concerning the content of this newsletter, or any action the Florida Legislature took this year, will be most welcome.

Please feel free to write, phone or e-mail me at any time in my New Port Richey district office. I can also be reached in Tallahassee during the annual meeting of the Florida Legislature.

MIKE FASANO

State Senator, District 11
Chairman, Transportation & Economic Development
Appropriations Committee

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2005 LEGISLATIVE REPORT

From
Senator MIKE FASANO

Inside ...

- ★ News on Public Safety
- ★ News on Education
- ★ News on Lowering Taxes
- ★ News on Transportation, Economic Development & Military Affairs
- ★ News on Seniors Concerns

Mike Fasano
State Senator
District 11
8217 Massachusetts Avenue
New Port Richey, FL 34653

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Dear Neighbors,



For the past ten years the Legislature has committed itself to an agenda of no new taxes, excellence in education, improved care for the elderly, focusing on the needs of our families and encouraging the growth of small businesses. When the Florida Legislature concluded its work this year we were able to remain focused on these principles while also providing additional protections from the most violent of criminals who prey upon our most vulnerable citizens.

The following are just a few highlights from the recently ended legislative session:

- We passed a \$63.1 billion budget that included significant increases in public education funding, funding to implement the voter-mandated Pre-K amendment to Florida's Constitution, and a major increase in the funding of the Bright Futures program.
- We increased funding for the maintenance and development of the major roads that serve our community.
- We passed significant legislation that provides needed homeowners insurance reform.
- We sent legislation to the governor which creates additional protections for Florida's sensitive environment as well as implementing new growth management guidelines.
- We created sales tax holidays for school supplies and materials needed to prepare for the hurricane season.

I hope the information in this newsletter proves to be helpful to you. Your opinions and concerns are very important to me. I value your thoughts and ideas to make Florida a better place to live. Please do not hesitate to call my office if I can ever be of any assistance.

Yours truly,

A stylized, handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mike".

Mike Fasano
State Senator (Citrus, Hernando, Pasco & Pinellas Counties)

Chairman, Senate Transportation &
Economic Development Appropriations Committee



Public Safety

- ★ Passage of legislation that increases severity of penalties for possessing child pornography and using a computer to transmit child pornography.
- ★ Put into law the requirement that sex offenders cannot have contact with their minor victims unless the parents give permission. Prior to passage of this bill the wishes of parents were considered by the courts but did not have to be followed.
- ★ Legislation that allows law enforcement officers, acting in their official capacity, to witness lewd behavior and make an arrest without the need for an independent witness to be offended by the behavior.
- ★ Passage of the Jessica Lunsford Act which requires lifetime imprisonment or lifetime electronic monitoring of those convicted of molesting a child under the age of 12. Additionally, this bill enhances penalties for certain sex crimes and creates new offenses and penalties.

Lowering Taxes

- ★ Creation of a sales tax exemption for the purchase of certain hurricane preparedness supplies at the start of the 2005 storm season.
- ★ Passage of a sales tax exemption on the purchase of books, clothing and related items worth \$50 or less, and school supplies worth \$10 or less per item, during the last nine days of July, 2005.
- ★ Creation of a new property tax exemption to the surviving spouse of a disabled ex-service member.
- ★ Reduction in the intangible tax rate from 1 mill to 0.5 mill.



Seniors Concerns

- ★ Legislation that lays out the definition and purposes of a multi-service senior center and how it will assist the elderly in accessing needed community services.
- ★ Passage of the “Arthritis Prevention & Education Act” which requires the Department of Health to establish an arthritis prevention and education program.
- ★ Increase in funding available for affordable housing for the elderly programs.

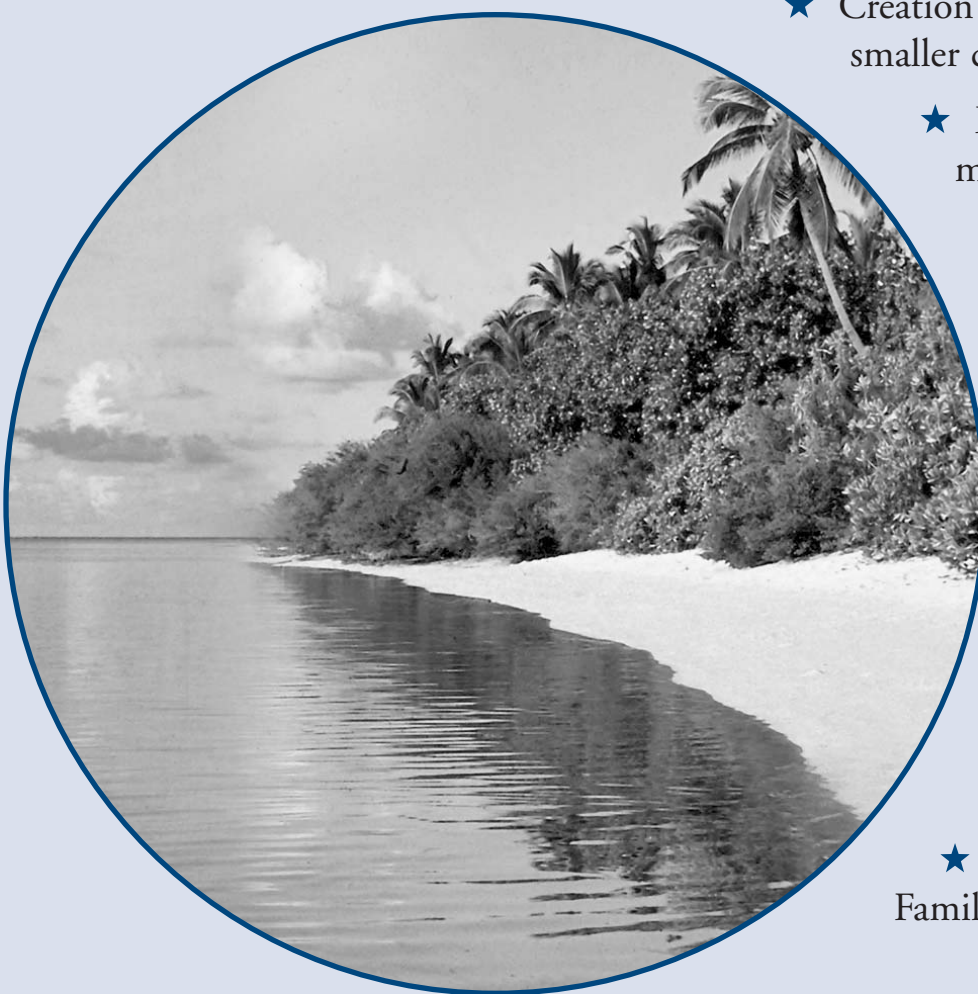
Legislative Update on Tallahassee

Education

- ★ Passage of a bill that makes it easier for children of deceased or disabled military veterans to receive assistance when going to college.
- ★ Fiscal Year 2005-06 total potential funding for local county school boards:
 - Citrus** - \$93,697,652, a 7.42% increase over the last fiscal year
 - Hernando** - \$126,361,204, a 15.16% increase over the last fiscal year
 - Pasco** - \$385,277,710, a 13.45% increase over the last fiscal year
 - Pinellas** - \$696,737,724, a 5.48% increase over the last fiscal year



Transportation, Economic Development & Military Affairs



- ★ Creation of a seaport dredging program to assist smaller counties with dredging projects.
- ★ Enhanced funding to assist and support members of the Florida National Guard.
- ★ Ensured funding for historical, cultural and library programs.
- ★ \$6.2 billion appropriated for the statewide Department of Transportation Work Program.
- ★ Appropriation of \$387 million for the implementation of the Universal Pre-K Program.
- ★ \$3.0 million funded to pay life insurance premiums of National Guard members.
- ★ \$5.0 million appropriated for the Military Family Readiness Emergency Program.